

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 83ISLAMA012962

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ACTION RP-10

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-07 OIC-02 10-15 NEA-06
SR-06 /047 W -----165515 292116Z /66

R 290406Z JUL 83
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6372
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR POUCH

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STATE FOR RP AND NEA/PAB

AID FOR AID/FFP AND ASIA/PNS

ROME FOR FODAG

E.D. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: SREF, WFP, PK, AF
SUBJECT: WFP OVERVIEW, JUNE-JULY, 1983

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 9305 (B) ISLAMABAD 6566
(C) ISLAMABAD 4508

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. THIS IS THE FOURTH IN A SERIES OF REPORTS
DEALING WITH FACETS OF THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM
OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP) FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES IN
PAKISTAN. WFP/ROME IS SENDING AN OFFICIAL TO ISLAMABAD
TO DISCUSS THE ANALYSIS OF WFP/PAKISTAN'S INLAND TRANS-
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PORTATION SUPPLY LINE. IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS GOP
AND WFP OFFICIALS HAVE BLAMED DELAYS IN THE SUPPLY LINE
ON LACK OF LOCOMOTIVES. WFP/PAKISTAN IS CONTINUING TO
OPERATE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THERE ARE 2.2 MILLION
RATION RECIPIENTS. ROBERT LUNEBURG, A FFPD ON DETAIL
TO STATE, HAS ARRIVED IN ISLAMABAD. HEADS OF WFP OFFICES
IN PESHAWAR AND QUETTA ARE PREPARING A CATALOGUE OF MAL-
PRACTICES. THE DEPUTY
WFP REPRESENTATIVE FOR PAKISTAN, YVES CLARET, EXPECTS

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TO LEAVE ISLAMABAD IN NOVEMBER 1983. END SUMMARY.

3. STUDY OF INLAND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN PAKISTAN. TREVOR PAGE OF WFP/ROME IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN ISLAMABAD JULY 30/31 TO DISCUSS INTER ALIA THE ANALYSIS OF WFP/PAKISTAN'S INLAND TRANSPORTATION SUPPLY LINE. THIS IS FOLLOW-UP TO APRIL 28 CONVERSATION BETWEEN WFP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JAMES INGRAM AND RP/DAS ARTHUR E. DEWEY AND OTHERS IN DEPARTMENT (SEE STATE 124906). WHEN INGRAM AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO UNDERTAKE THIS STUDY. STUDY WILL REVIEW ENTIRE INTERNAL PIPELINE OF REFUGEE RELIEF SUPPLIES AND WILL ENABLE DONORS TO TAKE CRITICAL LOOK AT GOP'S REQUEST FOR 100 20-TON TRUCKS CONTAINED IN PAPER PREPARED FOR APRIL 1983 PARIS CONSORTIUM MEETINGS (SEE ISLAMABAD 6187).

4. RAIL SHIPMENT. AS HIGHLIGHTED IN WFP OVERVIEWS PREPARED EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE PAKISTAN RAILWAY HAS HAD PERSISTENT PROBLEMS IN FURNISHING AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF RAILWAY WAGONS FOR WFP COMMODITIES. AT TIMES ONLY 60-80 WAGONS A DAY HAVE BEEN AVAILABLE EVEN WHEN BETWEEN 100 AND 200 WAGONS A DAY ARE NEEDED TO ENSURE RAPID CLEARING OF KARACHI PORT OF WFP COMMODITIES. IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS GOP AND WFP OFFICIALS HAVE STATED THAT LACK OF CONFIDENTIAL

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LOCOMOTIVES IS A MORE IMPORTANT SOURCE OF BOTTLENECKS THAN SHORTAGE OF RAILWAY WAGONS. THE RAIL LINES UTILIZED FOR TRANSPORTING REFUGEE SUPPLIES HAVE STEEP GRADES REQUIRING EXTRA LOCOMOTIVES IN THE BOLAN PASS BETWEEN THE PLAINS OF SIND AND QUETTA AND IN LALLA MUSA (PUNJAB) WHERE THE LAHORE-PESHAWAR RAILWAY CROSSES THE SALT RANGE. THE INLAND TRANSPORTATION STUDY SHOULD IDENTIFY SUCH SPECIFIC PROBLEM AREAS AND ENABLE THE GOP AND WFP TO RECOMMEND CAREFULLY-DOCUMENTED SOLUTIONS. MEANWHILE FOR ALL ITS PROBLEMS THE RAILWAY SUPPLY LINE COSTS ONLY HALF THE TRUCK ROUTE.

5. HOW MANY BENEFICIARIES? WHILE WFP OFFICIALS HERE REPORT QUOTE BUSINESS AS USUAL - UNCERTAIN REFUGEE NUMBERS AND OVER-DISTRIBUTION QUOTE. WFP/PAKISTAN IS CONTINUING TO OPERATE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THERE ARE 2.2 MILLION RATION RECIPIENTS. IN RECENT MONTHS WFP HAS NOTED A SUBSTANTIAL VARIATION IN THE NUMBERS OF RATION EQUIVALENTS DISTRIBUTED. IN JANUARY 1983 THREE MILLION WHEAT RATION EQUIVALENTS WERE DISTRIBUTED, WHILE IN MAY ONLY 2.1 MILLION WERE ISSUED. THE FIGURE FOR EDIBLE OIL PORTIONS WAS 2.83 MILLION IN FEBRUARY AND 2.4 MILLION IN MAY. IN FEBRUARY 2.8 MILLION PORTIONS OF DRIED SKIM MILK WERE ISSUED, WHILE IN MAY ONLY 1.5 MILLION WERE DISTRIBUTED. FOR ALL THESE INCONSISTENCIES, WFP/PAKISTAN IS GENERALLY SATISFIED THAT ALL THE FOOD

IS DISTRIBUTED (ALTHOUGH NOT EXCLUSIVELY TO ELIGIBLE
REFUGEES) AND THAT ALL ELIGIBLE REFUGEES GET SOME FOOD
EVEN IF THEY DO NOT GET THEIR FULL RATION.

6. ARRIVAL OF NEW FFP OFFICER IN ISLAMABAD. ROBERT

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R 290405Z JUL 83
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6373
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL KARACHI
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 ISLAMABAD 12962

STATE FOR RP AND NEA/PAB
AID FOR AID/FFP AND ASIA/PNS

RDME FOR FODAG

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LUNEBURG, A FFPD ON DETAIL TO THE OFFICE OF THE
EMBASSY COUNSELOR OF REFUGEE AFFAIRS, ARRIVED IN ISLAMA-
BAD JULY 20. HIS ASSIGNMENT HERE IS VERY TIMELY.
COINCIDING WITH THE INITIATION OF THE TRANSPORTATION
STUDY NOTED ABOVE, HE HAS CALLED ON WFP/PAKISTAN DEPUTY
REPRESENTATIVE YVES CLARET AND WILL BE VISITING PESHAWAR
AND QUETTA FOR ORIENTATION IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

7. MALPRACTICES. MEL ARELA, THE HEAD OF THE WFP OFFICE
IN PESHAWAR AND AUGUSTIN DE BENOIST, THE HEAD OF THE WFP
OFFICE IN QUETTA, ARE PREPARING A LIST OF MAJOR MAL-
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PRACTICES WHICH WE UNDERSTAND "IN DUE COURSE" WILL BE
PRESENTED TO KEY GDP OFFICIALS. WFP/PESHAWAR AND
WFP/QUETTA IN THEIR FRANK RELATIONS WITH THE PROVINCIAL
COMMISSIONERS FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES HAVE CITED SPECIFIC
MALPRACTICES IN FREQUENT LETTERS. SO THIS LIST WILL
PROBABLY CONTAIN FEW SURPRISES.

8. SURVEY OF WFP FOOD ACCOUNTS IN NWFP. CONSULATE
PESHAWAR REPORTS THAT THE WFP OFFICE THERE HAS RECENTLY

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COMPLETED A RECONCILIATION OF ITS FOOD ACCOUNTS FOR THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE. THE SURVEY REVEALED A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AMOUNT OF WHEAT ALLOCATED AND THE AMOUNT LIFTED FROM GOVERNMENT GODOWNS OF APPROXIMATELY 44,000 METRIC TONS. THIS REPRESENTS NEARLY SEVEN PERCENT OF THE 656,000 METRIC TONS WHICH HAS BEEN ALLOCATED FOR REFUGEES IN THE NWFP DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS AND IS SUFFICIENT TO MEET PROVINCIAL REFUGEE REQUIREMENTS FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS. WFP IS REPORTEDLY ASKING GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES TO MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE FROM OFFICIAL STOCKS, AND ANTICIPATES COMPLIANCE AS NWFP FOOD DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS HAVE ALREADY CONCURRED IN FIGURES WHICH HAVE BEEN GATHERED.

9. WFP PERSONNEL CHANGES. YVES CLARET, DEPUTY WFP REPRESENTATIVE FOR PAKISTAN, ANTICIPATES LEAVING ISLAMABAD IN NOVEMBER 1983. FREEMAN HUDSON, CURRENTLY IN THE WFP OFFICE HERE, WILL TAKE OVER AS "ACTING DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE", PROBABLY FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, UNTIL A PERMANENT REPLACEMENT IS ASSIGNED.

10. KARACHI PORT. WFP EMPLOYS TWO PAKISTANIS AND THEIR SUPPORT STAFF IN KARACHI, AND IS SERIOUSLY THINKING OF INCREASING ITS COVERAGE THERE. THE FOOD DEPARTMENT OF CONFIDENTIAL
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SIND HAS APPOINTED A CLEARING AGENT FOR INCOMING WFP SHIPMENTS. WFP IS SATISFIED WITH THE BAGGING OPERATION IN KARACHI PORT, BUT IT FEELS THE PORT NEEDS MORE THAN THE ONE WHEAT BERTH NOW AVAILABLE.

11. WFP PROGRAM IN IRAN? EARLIER THIS YEAR A THREE-MAN WFP/FAO TEAM VISITED IRAN TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A FOOD AID PROGRAM THERE (SEE ISLAMABAD 5657). FOLLOWING REVIEW OF THE TEAM REPORT, THE WFP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HAS INFORMED THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN THAT ON THE BASIS OF THEIR REVIEW AN EMERGENCY SITUATION WAS NOT APPARENT AND THAT THE WFP WOULD PROCEED NO FURTHER IN ADDRESSING THE ISSUE (SEE ROME 16535).

12. CONCLUSION. THE AFGHAN REFUGEE RELIEF PROGRAM IS SUCCESSFUL IN ACHIEVING ITS GOALS: FOOD SUPPLIES ARE REACHING THE REFUGEE POPULATION, THE LARGEST GROUP OF REFUGEES IN THE WORLD TODAY. WE CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE PROGRAM CREDIBILITY IN OUR CONTACTS WITH WFP OFFICIALS HERE. THE ARRIVAL OF THE FFPO SIGNALS OUR SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE IN ORDER TO ENSURE CONTINUING INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THIS IMPORTANT OPERATION.

13. KABUL MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. KING

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